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THE COMMON CAUSE

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

NON-PARTY. ***Societies and Branches in the Union*** **602.** **LAW-ABIDING.**

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The N.U.W.S.S. is an association of over 52,000 men and women who have banded themselves together, under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Fawcett, for the purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. At this great national crisis, however, they have for the time being suspended their political activities, in order to put themselves and their Union at the service of those who are organising the relief of distress caused by the war. They desire to help in the most effective way, by work rather than doles; to preserve the life of the race for the future by special care of mothers and young children; and generally to illustrate in their own lives the truth that the Suffragists' demand is for duties rather than for rights, and their ideal is the service of humanity. WILL YOU JOIN?

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Notes and News.

The N.U.W.S.S. Kingsway Hall Meeting.

English Suffragists will be keenly interested to hear that the brilliant young French advocate, Madame Marie Vérone, is coming over to address the Kingsway Hall Meeting on February 5th. Those who have not heard her have a treat to look forward to. Those who heard her at Budapest, in 1913, will remember the extraordinary brilliance of her speech and its electric effect on the great audience, which, as she reached her conclusion in a passionate declaration of "*la guerre contre la guerre*," rose to its feet and cheered her to the echo. Alas! that war will need to be declared again and yet again; but not less will be our welcome to this most brilliant of its advocates, come to England to plead the woman's cause.

The Liberty of the Subject.

In the interests of the liberty of the subject, we welcome the Bill, introduced by Lord Parmoor in the House of Lords, which seeks to restore to civilians the right of trial in the civil court. His Bill limits the power of military court martial, restricting it to trying only "those subjected to military law within the meaning of the Army Act of 1881," that is the military only. Should the Bill become law, it would make it impossible to bring women before a court martial, as was done recently in Cardiff.

Mr. Masterman's Candidature.

Mr. Masterman has withdrawn from nomination for the Swansea District Division, on the ground that he does not wish to provoke a contest within the ranks of Liberalism itself. His name has been mentioned in connection with Shipley, the late Mr. Percy Illingworth's constituency, but it is reported that a local candidate is preferred there also. Mr. Illingworth was a supporter of Women's Suffrage within the limits of strict fidelity to party. We hope that the next Liberal candidate may be prepared to go further.

Relief Measures and Unemployment.

The Parliamentary Paper reporting on the work of relieving distress caused by the war, states that unemployment has fallen more severely on women than men. This was to be expected, as in their case recruiting did not provide a counteracting influence. We wish that those in authority had realised earlier that this must be the case, and taken measures accordingly; and in wishing it, we are not only thinking of the women who are unemployed, but also of the women who are overworked. It is maddening to know (*a*) that women cannot get work, (*b*) that women are being crushed with overwork, (*c*) that "it has been unnecessary up to the present time to make any very heavy demands upon the National Relief Fund." The funds, the overwork, and the shortage of work, might surely have been brought into better juxtaposition than has been the case, if the matter had been put, as banks and railways were put, into the hands of experts.

Women Patrols.

We welcome with the greatest satisfaction the appearance of a report on the establishment and work of women patrols in the neighbourhood of the camps. There seems to have been a minimum of friction and difficulty with a maximum of excellent and effective work. An appeal is made for funds to support and extend the movement, and subscriptions should be sent to the N.U.W.W., Parliament Mansions, Westminster. We advise all who are interested to read the report for themselves. It may be had from the same address, price 2d.

For the Prevention of Criminal Assaults.

We understand that the Committee for the Prevention of Criminal Assaults on Children, whose formation we announced last week, is the outcome of the conference held in London last July to consider this subject. During the discussion the speakers emphasised the fact that bad housing, and consequent overcrowding, was largely responsible for the evil. They were also agreed that the general public were exceedingly ignorant of its magnitude and seriousness, hence the lack of strong moral reprobation, and the light sentences often imposed on offenders. The remedies proposed included women police officials and women magistrates. The urgent need of the co-operation of women throughout was indeed clearly felt to be of the first importance, and we trust that the Committee now in being will press this point with great force. The other most pressing need was for exact and abundant information to be supplied to the public, which is still largely incredulous. Publicity is absolutely necessary, and reports should be in as great and accurate detail as it is possible to make. The extreme vagueness of most newspaper reports makes them generally quite unreliable, as those who go into them personally discover. We urge all who have any influence with the press to use it to combat the prudishness which would rather allow so hideous an evil to continue than face the danger publicly. All possible facts should be given, with the exception of the name of the injured child. And, wherever possible, such cases should be watched by a woman in the court. Only in this way can reliable information be obtained.

SNA

Dangerous Leniency.

A number of newspaper reports have been sent to us, in which it is suggested that exceptional leniency is at present being shown to offenders who are soldiers. As we have said, it is exceedingly difficult to be sure that newspaper reports give a correct impression, but the volume of evidence that such leniency is becoming common makes us profoundly anxious. In one instance the offender pleaded guilty of indecent assault on a woman and was only "bound over," because he was drunk at the time, and it was assumed that "foolish people" had been treating him. The Chairman said the court "did not wish to deprive the prisoner of the chance to continue his duties, or the country of his services," and therefore "made an exception in his case." Such a course seems to us in the last degree impolitic and unjust. It is true that people ought not to "treat" soldiers to drink: but this man was not a child—he was thirty years old; and, after all, the folly of other people should not be made to cover every sin. It is not only a danger to women and children here, that such offences should be regarded lightly, but it is a hideous danger to women and children in countries suffering the horrors of invasion, that such men should be serving with the colours. And last, but not least, it is an unpardonable injustice to the men with whom he will serve. The reputation of our soldiers is our most sacred possession at this time; and their fame may be bespattered with mud by the presence and misconduct of only a handful of such men as these for whom magistrates are "making exceptions," because they do not wish to "deprive the country of their services."

The British Soldier.

The Challenge publishes some stories of the British soldier. A chaplain says of him, that he had seen him in action, under the heaviest fire, and when wounded and in great pain, torn by shells and cut about by bullets. But not a word of complaint; indeed, he had hardly heard a man even cry out. They were grateful for the least thing that was done for them, and the only question they asked was, "Do you think, sir, that I have done my duty?"

Heroism at Home.

There is another kind of heroism—not less precious—which is ingloriously and inconspicuously practised at home. *The Yorkshire Observer* reports that there is no malingering among women to-day. Personally, the doctor, whose verdict is reported, "never believed that it existed to any great extent," and added that his factory-working patients cannot be induced to take a day off because they are making khaki "for them poor lads at the front." *The Observer* goes on: "When it is remembered that these women are working twelve to fourteen hours a day there is something rather fine about that attitude. Not all the heroes are in the trenches, evidently—there are some at the looms."

The Cardiff Order.

We are informed that the order recently given in Cardiff, restricting certain women to their own houses within certain hours, has been withdrawn, and the women who had been arrested for disobeying it, released; but we have no knowledge as to the reasons for the withdrawal, nor as to what policy is now being pursued in respect of prostitution and its problems in Cardiff. What steps have been taken to penalise those who make a profit out of vice—brothel keepers, souteneurs, &c.? Are there adequate and effective agencies for helping and protecting young girls who are in danger, whether by their own folly or by the failure of their guardians? Has Cardiff any adequate provision of free, efficient, and continuous medical treatment for men and women suffering from venereal disease? Has any attempt been made there to teach either men or women the great dangers of venereal disease and the possibility and value of continence, which is the only sure preventive? Until humane and intelligent measures are taken on such lines as these—the lines indicated by the International Medical Congress—there will always be a liability to do arbitrary, cruel, and unreasonable things in moments of panic, and such injustices are not merely futile; they are definitely injurious to public morals and to public health.

The Day of Intercession in India.

Readers of Sir William Wedderburn's article in our issue of last week, on Indian Aspirations and Ideals, will be interested to hear that January 3rd was observed throughout that vast country as a day of intercession for the war. Not in Christian churches only, but in all temples, mosques, and synagogues, prayer was offered for the issue of the war and the consolation of the bereaved. *India* reports also that large prayer meetings were held by Moslems in open spaces.

For the Empire!

"And gentlemen in England now a-bed,
Shall think themselves accurst they were not here."

Numbers of women are crowding into the Voluntary Aid Detachment, and some of them are allowed to help. It is a proud moment, but it makes them regret very bitterly that they did not subject themselves to the full-length training in time of peace, and thereby rendered their bodies active, their hands deft, their memories retentive. Many more, however, are still biding their time, and it is extremely probable that they will continue to bide it till the end of the war. And is that the end? Will all these young women, whose spirits have been touched to finer issues, sink back into golf and bridge, and the various other time-killing devices of peace time? It depends very largely, I think, on whether it is put before them quite clearly and convincingly, that if the country needs every available young man in the army at the present moment, it also needs every available young woman—every single one of them, for its service, if not in the particular way they had chosen for themselves. They are, frankly, too late to render very effective help to the men of the present generation. They are in ample time, if they will only use it, to save literally thousands of the generation to come, the children that are yet unborn.

We are told that 105,000 infants die every year in England and Wales during the first year of their life, and in the first *week* of their life.

Think of it—105,000! In November, 1914, we were aghast to hear that our total casualties (including wounded) had been 55,000 since the beginning of the war. Nearly double that number of infants die in the first year of their life; they are always dying; they drop, little chalk atoms, out of the great sea of life, right down and out of it, and all their mother's months of discomfort and often ill-health when they were coming, all the pain and anguish as they are brought into the world; all the baby's own pains, sharp pains of gastritis, chronic pains of debility, down to the last death struggle, all these *apparently* go for nothing; mere wasted effort, futile beyond words.

But, you will say perhaps, if we had learnt all that could be learnt about infants, how do you know we could have made any difference, or have saved any, or many of these lives? Just because of this. That New Zealand has reduced its infant mortality to something lower than has ever been visioned in England—and how? Merely by training nurses, not many of them, only a few, but it has trained them very thoroughly and made them absolute specialists on everything pertaining to infant life. Let no woman of ordinary health and intelligence, who is still of an age to study and assimilate new ideas, doubt any longer that her country *does* want her, very badly indeed, and at once. Is not this worth doing, for the sake of Great Britain, to save the life and build up the health of all these countless hosts that are to come after us? And if her mind turns rather to the mother than the child, let me assure her as a district midwife of twenty years' standing, that in no other walk of life can she do as much to educate, to comfort and to befriend her sister woman as that to which I now so urgently invite her. The suffering, both acute and chronic, entailed on working women in our country by bad midwifery passes belief.

You set out to relieve suffering, you were balked in your first endeavour; may not this be God's way of turning your energies into another channel where they are urgently, oh how urgently, needed?

There is already a severely felt shortage of doctors for civilian purposes; many have gone to the front to help with the wounded, others have cast off their profession for the moment in obedience to that insistent call that sounds in their ears: Fight; for England, and to avenge Belgium! An abnormally small number of medical students are entering their names for study, from the same cause. Now, if ever, good midwives are wanted, and will be wanted for many, many years to come, that the medical profession may be relieved from attendance on normal labours, and that the mothers and infants may not be left to the old *bonâ fide* Gamp, who is still in our midst; to the unregistered woman who takes shelter from the law by sending to inform the doctor *after* he has started on his long rounds that a patient is in labour, and meantime does the work and the mischief herself. That they may not even be left to the young woman who, having obtained a three months' training, and managed to struggle through the Government examination, is legally qualified, but actually incompetent.

It is a very free, independent life, that of a midwife, not

without its hardships, I admit. This is not a time when British women will cavil at hardships.

A midwife lives in her own rooms or cottage, in town or country. She is qualified to attend cases of normal labour without a doctor, and the responsibility of guarding these lives and of summoning help when necessary, is on her shoulders. She also visits each mother and child daily for nine days after confinement, washing them, making the bed, administering such treatment as her experience tells her is necessary, giving orders as to the feeding and care of each patient until her next visit, and, above all, educating each mother in the correct principles of infant hygiene.

Women with a little capital will do well to work up a practice for themselves in any of the thousands of districts which need their services, charging an appropriate fee in each case. Since the Insurance Act came into force, and the majority of working women receive a 30s. maternity benefit, such a fee should be from 15s. to £1 1s. Midwives without capital are better advised to work under a Committee, and will then probably receive an inclusive salary of £80 to £85 a year.

The Home for Mothers and Babies was founded ten years ago for the purpose of giving a thorough and prolonged training of not less than a year's duration on these vital subjects to those who, accepting this vocation, yet realised that the customary three or four months was wholly inadequate to prepare them for it. It has recently been joined by the British Lying-in Hospital from Endell Street, and the Amalgamated Charity is building, in the near future, a new hospital at Woolwich, which shall be known to the world as the British Hospital for Mothers and Babies, and National Training School for District Midwives.

To any who feel a vocation to serve their country in this particular way, I make this appeal. Will they give the subject their earnest consideration, and apply to me if they care to do so, for further particulars. ALICE S. GREGORY.

Health of Women Workers.

When in the late summer of 1911 the National Insurance Bill was introduced and printed, people familiar with the facts and problems of women workers' lives perceived that the clauses dealing with the interests of such workers had been drafted upon an inadequate basis of knowledge. A committee was formed which included representatives of such societies as the Women's Co-operative Guild, Women's Labour League, Women's Trade Union League, Women's Industrial Council and others, and a large number of amendments—many of which were accepted—were urged upon Mr. Lloyd George.

Several points, however, still remained unsatisfactory; but dissatisfaction with these was somewhat allayed by a promise given personally and categorically to Mrs. Ramsay MacDonald that the Act should be reconsidered in the light of experience after the lapse of a reasonable period. Three years was mentioned as such a period but that term was not, perhaps, included in the promise. The services of Mrs. MacDonald on that committee were the last that she lived to render; and it is the duty of all who were her fellow members to remind the authorities that the promise given her is the more sacred on that account. Another undertaking, given by Mr. Lloyd George to the whole committee, was that the funds and accounts of women's contributions should be kept absolutely separate from those of men's contributions. An unpleasant rumour that this undertaking has not been observed is, it is earnestly to be hoped, unfounded.

A period of more than two years has now elapsed; a considerable body of experience has accumulated and the authorities have discovered the fact (familiar to all persons who habitually visit women workers) that the majority of working women, especially after they become mothers, never know what good health means. By revealing incontrovertibly this terrible state of things the Insurance Act has gone far to justify its existence. But since its calculations are understood not to have allowed for nearly so high a percentage of sickness among women, there will probably be an attempt to lower the rate of sick benefit to them. Indeed there have already been proposals to exclude pregnancy, as distinguished from actual childbirth, altogether. Any such endeavour should be resisted not only in the interests of women and in the interest of the nation, but also in the interest of common fairness, because it is quite certain that, if the funds have been kept separate and the accounts properly drawn up there must be a balance in favour of the women from another source.

When the question arose, at an interview between the committee and Mr. Lloyd George, of the proportion of women who, having passed out of insured employment at marriage, would re-enter it as widows. he was understood to say that the proportion allowed for in the actuarial reckoning was 15 per cent. Miss Macarthur urged that the proportion was much too high, but was momentarily silenced by a question whether she had referred to certain information in the Census which subsequent enquiry proved not to be supplied by any census figures then published. Nobody at that meeting seemed able to produce any statistics as to the proportion of widows in insured trades as compared with married and with unmarried women. Yet such statistics existed in printed official papers and should have been known to Mr. George's advisers. The Home Office printed in 1907 a return of the status as to marriage of women employed in textile factories and a similar one concerning women employed in non-textile factories. A third return dealing with women in workshops was not printed but remains among the archives of the Home Office. The percentages varied in the three returns but all three showed the proportion of widows employed to be between 4 and 5 per cent. Now, as not all employed and insured widows would return to insurance (since some would never have ceased to be insurably employed) it is obvious that a reserve fund allowing for a re-entrance of 15 per cent. would be more than twice what is necessary, and that two-thirds of this fund must be standing on the credit side of the women's account as against the greater expenditure upon sickness than that originally expected. The figures of the Home Office returns are confirmed by American returns of a similar kind; in these also the percentages of widows in industrial employments fall between 4 and 5 per cent.

It is abundantly clear that the time has come for that revision which Mr. Lloyd George promised to Mrs. Macdonald; and there are signs that the Government perceives the necessity of some examination and reconsideration. Miss Macarthur is understood to have asked for a Royal Commission; but Royal Commissions are always very costly and almost always very slow. We would rather urge the appointment of a Departmental Committee, which is always less expensive and generally less dilatory. Of a Departmental Committee women can, and of course should, be members.

In the meantime it is the duty of everybody who cares for the interests of women workers to watch carefully every step taken, or omitted, by the authorities and to press continually for a prompt, adequate and open enquiry.

CLEMENTINA BLACK.

Saving the Children.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

While the health of the children has become more than ever important, in view of the loss of so many of our finest citizens, it is to be feared that the good work which was being developed from the medical inspection of school children may be somewhat set back, owing to the growing calls which are being made upon doctors and nurses in connection with the war. Good results are obtained through the mere routine inspection of children, by which defects are brought to the notice of parents and teachers. But great hopes have been raised that by a systematic "following up" of cases noted by the school medical officer a vast improvement may be effected in the health of the nation. This cannot be carried out without the assistance of a large medical and nursing service, and even if all appointments are thrown open to women doctors, it is not improbable that there will be a serious shortage in the near future. At present very few women are employed as School Medical Officers, this fewness being perhaps due to the fact that the office of School Medical Doctor is generally combined with that of Medical Officer of Health, but a considerable number are employed as assistant school medical officers.

With regard to school nurses, upon whom the result of the school inspection so much depends, it is almost certain that there will soon be a shortage. This is a very serious matter, but some of the duties of the school nurse could surely be performed by any intelligent girl after a few weeks training; such, for example, as carrying out inspections with regard to uncleanliness and verminous conditions, and supervising or carrying out cleansing operations.

Only 277 out of 317 Education Authorities at present employ trained nurses for "following up" cases of children reported as defective or unwell; some relying on the local health visitors to go to the child's home and talk to the parents; while others, unfortunately, content themselves with merely sending the attendance officer to find out whether anything is being done.

A trained nurse is, of course, the best person for this work, as she can in many cases carry out simple treatment herself or instruct the mother how to do it. But the training given to health visitors fits them to be of considerable service in assisting the school authorities, and if the supply of these is insufficient the Queen's Work for Women Fund might well be used for training others, with a special view to school work.

While the future of medical inspection gives cause for some anxiety, it is reassuring to find that on the outbreak of war the Board of Education promptly prepared to make a special effort to deal with one great cause of ill-health among children—malnutrition. Sir George Newman's Report points out that both the Board of Education and the Local Education Authorities were in a strong position to deal with any emergency which might arise owing to the war, though the Regulation issued last June, stating the conditions under which the Board were prepared to distribute grants in aid of the provision of meals, and the new Provision of Meals Act, legalising the provision of meals during holidays and abolishing the necessity of obtaining the sanction of the Board of Education to expenditure out of the rates on the provision of food.

Having decided that, owing to dislocation of employment, it was advisable to do something at once to assist authorities, the Board paid substantial instalments of grant in September. They also, on the day on which the new Act came into force, issued a circular letter to all Education Authorities, pointing out that it was probable that there would be an exceptional amount of distress in the industrial population, and that it was most important to make preparations in due time to deal with it. The Board suggested that the Authorities should prepare an organisation which would enable them to secure the provision of suitable meals for all school children likely to require them "if and when occasion arose," and offered assistance and advice to Authorities who might desire to consult them. A little later on they issued a memorandum containing practical advice as to the provision of such meals. Sir George Newman reports that :—

"It is still, of course, much too early to form a considered judgment as to the effect of these arrangements as a whole, but it may be said that local authorities generally have made successful efforts to cope with the requirements and eventualities of the situation. No doubt, in some areas, especially those in which no organisation previously existed, the arrangements, if and when a testing comes, may be found to be inadequate ; but even in these areas much has been done to place the organisation on a basis which can be regarded as satisfactory, and capable of great expansion if need should arise. It is, perhaps, not too much to say that potentially in each educational area the machinery now exists for feeding all the school children if necessary."

In connection with the supervision and service of these meals there may be need for a very large body of helpers, especially as the number of teachers has been so much decreased by recruiting for the army. Unemployed women might well be paid, out of public funds, to undertake the work. Various branches of the public service could employ with advantage thousands of competent women, of all classes, and it will be the greatest folly if they are not utilised merely because they cannot afford to give their services. M. M.

PEACE AND THE SOLDIER.

The *Berliner Tageblatt*, of December 24th (Christmas Eve), published two letters from German soldiers at the front. One writes : "Should we finally achieve victory by our swords what will become of all those good forces which have been brought out in us by these earnest times? . . . Shall we again have what we had in our country—at the top and at the bottom before the war—anxious timidity in face of rank and money, brutal struggle of material and party interests, curses at those above and at those below? . . . Oh, mother, these things weigh upon me and many of my comrades more heavily than whether I or my comrade on right or left should return from the war alive and sound. Believe me, it requires much less personal courage to fight here at the front than to fight in the cause of true, rightful, and moral freedom and unity at home after the conclusion of peace." And another (Baron Marschall von Bieberstein) :—"It is not true that eternal peace is a dream, and not a beautiful one at that. A time will and must come which will no longer know war, and this time will mark a gigantic progress in comparison with our own."

WOMEN CHAPLAINS.

A correspondent informs us that a woman has been appointed Chaplain to a French military hospital, and that the wives of several pastors at the front have also been conducting services in halls in their husbands' place.

Correspondence.

A large amount of correspondence is unavoidably held over. It is necessary to remind our readers that there is no editorial responsibility for opinions expressed in the correspondence columns.

REASONS FOR ADVOCATING THE SUMMONING OF A CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMAN SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE IN 1915.

MADAM,—In answer to Mrs. Fawcett's letter of last week, opposing the summoning of an International Congress in this year of war, may I say that the suggestion that other women's international organisations, "armed with power to discuss the question of peace and war," should also be invited greatly strengthens the hope of a fruitful congress, because its object would then be clear, and no one would attend it who was not prepared to further that object, which would be precisely that reconcilement of nationalism with internationalism of which Mrs. Fawcett is, for the moment, sceptical. Some people do not feel that there is any necessary opposition. They regard the opposition of the past as a disastrous illusion, certain, in the long run, to lead to disastrous war or disastrous armed peace. Those who keenly feel this opposition will have no inducement to risk their lives on mine-strewn seas in order to attend an international congress, and the risks of quarrelling would therefore be diminished. At the same time, it is useful for us to guard against possible dangers of the sort, and I am glad, therefore, that Mrs. Fawcett should have reminded us that we have been foolish before, and may be foolish again. We must, however, take the risk of that. An internationalism that is only operative in fine diplomatic weather is not much practical use. A good deal of foolishness comes from ignorance. We might easily offend a Dane by an ignorant allusion to Schleswig-Holstein, or a Swede by such an allusion to Norway or Finland ; a Frenchwoman might make some queer mistakes about Ulster ; there were points about Galicia's internal affairs which, I remember, puzzled some of us at Budapest. No books can teach a hundredth part of what we may learn by meeting.

I know some people feel that war-time is not a time for learning lessons. The partisan spirit is undoubtedly unfavourable to the learning of lessons ; but everyone is not a partisan, even in belligerent countries, and a congress in a neutral country would tend to allay the spirit in those who attended it. Most of us, probably, hold that, once being in the war, we must help our country to sustain it, but some of us hold also that it is our duty to try and form a public opinion favourable to an enduring peace. We know that such a peace will not depend upon Great Britain alone. Let us then, in God's name, try and inform ourselves of opinion and sentiment in Europe as and when we can, and let us try to spread the good will without which no peace can endure. If we had votes, we could use them. Since we have only our share of influence, let us use that. I can imagine no remorse like that of thinking one had failed to live in one's little day.

We have not to consider whether other countries decline to send delegates. We have to consider whether we ourselves stand out in what will look like insular arrogance. Outraged, bleeding, devastated, France and Belgium may feel they cannot go. We must bow the head to their agony. But if we can go, we must. M. Romain Rolland is, I understand, disappointed at the silence of Suffragist women. This war is such an assay of our Suffragist creed as we may not evade and live. To refuse this challenge seems to me an evasion of life and adventure. Mrs. Fawcett's message to the International Alliance, published in the September number of *Jus Suffragii*, was an encouragement to many of us. She wrote : "we women who have worked together for a great cause, have hopes and ideals in common ; these are indestructible links binding us together. We have to show that what unites us is stronger than what separates us." I grant it is best that those who do not feel this should refrain from meeting, but there are some whose feelings are still the same as those expressed by Mrs. Fawcett in September.

Everyone is almost adoring the common soldiers who stepped out of their trenches on Christmas Eve to make friends with their brother, the enemy. Every chivalrous and lovely deed of this kind smells sweet and blossoms in the dust of war. Shall women do no such deeds? Is chivalry all for men really?

We admit the chivalry of nurses. Women cannot all be nurses. I should like to think that women might help to bring the true chivalry into politics. It is worth trying, and it is even worth taking risks and making mistakes for.

H. M. SWANWICK.

MADAM,—As the member who moved at the N.U.W.S.S. Executive Committee on December 3rd the resolution "that the National Union propose to Mrs. Catt that a business congress (*i.e.*, of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance) be summoned for 1915," may I set down some reasons in support of the proposal.

At the outbreak of the European War, the Suffrage Societies in the different countries did not say : "We can do nothing. Our work must stop." Their attitude was : "Circumstances have changed. What is the work we must immediately undertake?" This, I believe, should also be the attitude of the International Alliance, and to find an answer to this question, it is necessary to call a meeting. Of course, there are difficulties, enormous difficulties. One of the chief is that national feeling might break out. But, as Suffragists, we must not yield to these difficulties. The war has focussed the attention of the world on internationalism ; we must make use of the new international opportunities. To be silent internationally is to put our movement back. We are shirking our responsibilities if we do not keep before the world that women, no less than men, are affected by the war, and are concerned in the terms of peace. The bereaved, the homeless, the starving, and the ravished women are evidences of its effect. To take examples of the Suffragists' immediate concern with terms-of-peace proposals : Many of the terms-of-peace organisations which are springing up in all countries urge in one form or other (1) that no transfer of territory shall be effected without the consent of the population of the territory ; (2) that foreign policy shall be subject to democratic control. It is to be noted that these proposals are being made with a view to having them brought forward at the International Congress which decides terms of peace. It is, there-

fore, urgent—whatever may be our individual opinions on these proposals—to keep before the international public that women, no less than men, are included in the population and in the democracy.

Mrs. Fawcett has recently made a most valuable suggestion for international suffrage work. After reminding us that the Congress of Vienna, at which the terms of peace after the Napoleonic wars were drawn up, passed a resolution condemning the slave trade, she suggests that we should endeavour to have a suffrage resolution passed at the International Congress which will draw up terms of peace after the present war. Mrs. Fawcett is against the calling of a meeting of the Alliance, but I think that only at such a meeting could plans be made for the efficient carrying out of this proposal. Such an international meeting would help to soften the feelings of bitterness between the nations, and would contribute something towards making the ultimate peace possible.

The present press censorship means that we cannot exchange information with the women of other countries. One chance remark may prevent the delivery of the letter. In this country there has been the police order for soldiers' wives; in Germany the police have been given additional powers to arrest any women. Only by meeting can we get an insight into the women's point of view in the other countries.

So much for the resolution passed by the Executive. I should also like to see called an International Convention of women's organisations, represented by delegates, empowered to vote on the principles of the terms of peace, including those which might be outside the scope of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance.

CHRYSTAL MACMILLAN.

(Member of the Executive Committee of the N.U.W.S.S., and Member of the Board of Officers of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance.)

AN EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN.

MADAM,—May I express my sympathy with the desire so admirably expressed by Miss Kemys-Tynte to educate our fellow citizens in the affairs, conditions, and aspirations of our neighbours on the Continent. In the presence of the awful catastrophe under which the civilisation of Europe is now staggering, no one who is on the side of the angels in the matter of progress can fail to appreciate how much there is still to do in inculcating a real sense of the common interests of mankind, and how important it is that willing and capable people should be found to undertake it.

The Workers' Educational Association deserves our gratitude and support for the efforts it is making, but I venture to disagree with the opinion that it is the duty of the National Union to embark on a similar course. Singleness of aim gives an enormous force to a Society like ours, and if the National Union were to scatter its efforts and squander its energies in propaganda about the thousand-and-one other abuses that clamour for reform, its loss in efficiency would far outweigh any gain from its wider aim as a National Union for putting the world right. Let us by all means, as individuals, join the Workers' Educational Association, or any other Society whose legitimate business is general education, but do not let us seek to divert the National Union from the object for which it was formed.

At a time like the present the most praiseworthy efforts at drawing closer the ties of sympathy between nations are liable to misconstruction that might most seriously compromise the position of our Union in the eyes of the nation, and throw back indefinitely the achievement of our object—which, we must not forget, is the enfranchisement of women.

OLIVER STRACHEY.

CLASS WARFARE.

MADAM,—In "Notes and News," issue January 8th, commenting upon the Women Socialists of Germany sending a message to their sister Socialists in Britain, you make a remark in regard to Suffragists upon which I beg to utter a word of dissent. You say: "Suffragists will always desire to stand for the oppressed against the oppressors, but we believe they will strive earnestly against a conception of society which instead of nation against nation sets class against class."

This is a misunderstanding of the nature of Socialism which ought not to be let pass, because it is altogether too common, even amongst those who ought to know better. One often hears it remarked by those opposed to Socialism that it means the State taking the wealth and property from those who possess it, and leaving them with no alternative but the poor-house, with the belief that when that is done the Socialists will collar all the good salaries as officials in the Socialist State. To talk of Socialism "setting class against class," is on a par with that of "the women's movement being a sex war," and one might as well say that Christianity means a war against all other religions. To Socialists, the present economic basis can produce nothing else but a class war. They believe that the present stratification of society consists of three classes, viz., the Aristocratic or Proprietary Class, the Middle or Capitalist Class, and the Masses or Working Class. One hears laments on all sides against party politics by people who don't seem to trouble to find out why there is such a thing as party politics.

In the past the hereditary class had the governing power in this country, but with the rise of the manufacturer there came the demand from this quarter for a share in the government of the country. The Tory Party represents the interests of the Hereditary class, and the Liberal Party represent the interests of the manufacturers. With the spread of education to the masses came the Labour or Socialist movement in opposition to the above classes. From these facts of the antagonism between the Tory and Liberal Parties it seems to me absurd to suggest that the coming of Socialism was the "setting of class against class," as if there had been no "class war" before.

Socialism means the abolition of the "class war" by the establishment of a commonwealth based upon equality of rights and citizenship, and in the attempt to achieve this, Socialists are up against the same forces as the women, in regard to the Suffrage, viz., custom and tradition. There need be no "class war," or "sex war," if those in power will only yield to the demands of the "new age." But if we face the facts as they are, we must admit that there *is* a "class," and "sex war," going on all the time. See Marx's *Capital*, Chapter X., "The Natural Working Day," where we have plenty of evidence of a "class war," long before our time, in the struggle of the workers for a shorter working day. All humanists deplore this war of the classes, but there is no use in blinking the facts. The war is here, inherent within the Aristocratic and Capitalist systems.

You are doing a service in publishing articles on the "problems of war and peace," and if I may be allowed to venture an opinion, I would say that the cause of the present "Great War," is the insane ambition of the German Emperor for World-Domination, plus the Capitalist Class in Germany, in an attempt to wrest the supremacy of trade from Great Britain. We in this country have a form of king-ship which does not encourage such an ambition, but we have a governing class who are as determined to gain, or at least hold, the trade of the world. Socialists maintain that competition in trade is immoral, and that the desire to gain the world's biggest share of trade is as great a danger in provoking war as in leaving so great a power in the hands of a king such as the German Emperor possess.

Socialism means Democracy. There can be no true democracy on the present economic basis. It means the abolition of kings, of aristocracy, and of the capitalist system, placing the control in the hands of the people, which can only be done by the Socialisation of the means of production and distribution; and the institution of an equal income to every citizen, probably on the lines laid down by Mr. Bernard Shaw in his lectures on "The Redistribution of Income" at the Kingsway Hall, London. To bring this about we shall need "as much power, passion (enthusiasm), and inspiration . . ." as imperialism now demands for its own ends.

Apologising for the length of this letter, I give best wishes to the cause of the Women's Movement, which I regard as a very important phase of the Humanist Movement. and also for the very able manner in which the organ of the National Union (which I read every week) is conducted.

J. CAREY.

[*We gladly publish Mr. Carey's interesting letter, but our criticism was not directed against Socialism. It was against the expressions in Clara Zetkin's letter which seemed to us to misrepresent its real meaning and to suggest, so to speak, a horizontal instead of a vertical antagonism—class against class, instead of nation against nation. That such a conception is fundamentally opposed to true Socialism, we entirely agree.*—ED., "C.C."]

ENGLISH WIVES OF ALIEN HUSBANDS.

MADAM,—I would ask your permission to make a criticism of your notes on the position of English women married to alien men, which seem to be one-sided.

The German woman married to an Englishman is treated as an Englishwoman. Once she has shown her marriage certificate, she is free from further interference. This is, as no doubt we all agree, very desirable. But it seems to me that, correlatively, the English woman married to a German must be treated as a German. The women cannot "have it both ways."

The position as regards men is consistent. The Englishman who has married a German is not penalised for it, and the German who has married an Englishwoman is not saved thereby from the disadvantages of his alien status.

The nationality of the husband is attributed to the wife. The law might, but certainly will not, adopt the opposite attitude and make the husband's nationality depend on the wife's; this would not mend matters. The only other alternative is to let husband and wife retain their individual nationality; and that would mean that German wives must be turned out of "prohibited areas," and kept under police supervision in other areas. This we should regret; so perhaps the present position is best, and I think it is not unfair.

M. E. PEARSON.

[*Suffragists do not, we believe, wish to "have it both ways." They object to the legal fiction which pretends that a British woman by some mysterious process is turned into (e.g.) a German one, when she marries a German. It does not make the pretence any more real, that a German woman is supposed to become British if she marries a Briton.*—ED., "C.C."]

NEWNHAM'S CONTRIBUTION TO N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

MADAM,—In your account of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospital in your issue of January 8th, you state "that from your Girton friends you hear that they have already raised £1,000 towards the equipment of your third unit."

May I be allowed to point out that the £1,000 has been raised by the joint efforts of Newnham, as well as Girton, and that the Hon. Treasurer is Mrs. Jacob, an old Newnham student, with whom, I believe, rests the credit for organising the carrying through the joint undertaking.

HANNAH F. COHEN.

[*We regret that the report sent to us from the Edinburgh headquarters of the Hospital should have contained the slip noted by our correspondent, and are glad to publish her correction.*—ED., "C.C."]

TIPPERARY ROOMS.

MADAM,—Lady Jellicoe, speaking at a meeting at Ventnor recently, at the opening of a Woman's Club in connection with the S.S.F.A., said it could not be called a "Tipperary Room," because of certain restrictions in the rules laid down for them, among them being the following: They must remain open the same hours as public-houses—and there must be no *Suffragette literature*, nor must a *Suffragette openly express her views*. Perhaps Suffragette implies here *militants only*, but if law-abiding Suffragists and their publications are banned, it shows a prejudiced feeling, and the matter should be investigated. If THE COMMON CAUSE is sent to the soldiers' camps, it cannot be out of place in a woman's club. Are there no women on the Tipperary Rooms Committee?

A MEMBER, N.U.W.S.S. (Newport, I.W.).

A SERVICE WIVES' UNION.

MADAM,—A Service Wives' Union sounds to me the very thing wanted now. Will you let me know if there is anything I can do to help?

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ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS *to be addressed to The Manager,* THE COMMON CAUSE, *2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., and all* ADVERTISEMENTS *must reach the Office not later than first post on Tuesday. Advertisement Representative, S. R. Le Mare.*

NOTICE.—*This paper is obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by mid-day on Friday. If any difficulty is found in obtaining it locally, please communicate with The Manager,* THE COMMON CAUSE.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies being a body which exists to obtain the enfranchisement of women, holds no official view upon any other topic. Opinions expressed upon other subjects must not be regarded as necessarily those of the Union.

A Woman's Question.

A question was put by Lord Curzon in the House of Lords last week, in which he drew attention to the fact that the Select Committee appointed to consider the payments to soldiers' and sailors' dependants had been sitting for over seven weeks and had made no report. "As it is a matter of great importance," he added, "especially in connection with recruiting, I should like to ask if we may expect to receive the report before long?"

We should regret it, if the Select Committee were to report without full and careful consideration of this very difficult problem—a problem which has already suffered from hasty and ill-considered solutions which in fact solved nothing. We should prefer that the Committee should take what time it feels necessary, on condition that some of that time be given to the question of speeding up the processes which at present intervene between the application for payments and their receipt by the applicant. The period of waiting seems to vary considerably in different cases, but in some it is scandalously long, and the uncertainty about it often causes acute suffering which could surely be avoided under a more uniform and intelligible system.

We wish also to urge once more the importance of having the help of women in the administration of these payments. It is a woman's question, and nothing could be more unfortunate than the fact that, owing to the nature of "Select Committees," no woman has been able to serve on the body considering it. (It is a curious commentary on the absence of the "woman's point of view" in the House of Commons, that the composition of the Committee was hailed by everyone as satisfactory, though it is entirely composed of men and deals almost exclusively with payments to women.) It will be a disaster if this mistake is not rectified in the administering authority eventually set up.

For this reason, we believe that it would be wise to put the matter into the hands of "ad hoc" boards or committees, and, on both the central and the local authorities, at least half the members should be women.

Such bodies would certainly employ women officials, and this point is not less important than the presence of a large proportion of women on the central and local committees. As we have already pointed out in this paper, the approved societies working the Insurance Act have found it wise to use women officials for their work in connection with women, and this precedent ought to be followed. The reasons would seem to most people to be obvious, but since hitherto women have not been employed to make investigations, it is worth while to point them out.

Undoubtedly the most difficult question to decide is that of the payments to "dependants other than wives." Under this head come mothers dependent on their sons—or partly dependent—and "unmarried wives." The most extraordinary conditions have already arisen, and it is difficult to discover on what principle—if any—the payments are regulated. In the case of a mother, the question arises, what proportion of the sum paid to her by her son represented the outlay for his keep? We are confident that a woman would be more apt to judge this point rightly, than a man; yet, at present, it is a man who does it. The case of the

" unmarried wife " is surely clearer still. We hesitate, indeed, to state definitely what her position is, for it appears impossible to do so without hearing at once that your statement is now incorrect, since a new order has been issued ten minutes after it was made. But (unless this has been done) it appears (1) that an " unmarried wife " is treated as a legal wife for purposes of allotment and separation allowance. (2) Women married to soldiers since August 13th do not get separation allowances, unless they can prove that the engagement was made—the promise of marriage given—before the war broke out. We submit that inquiries on these points cannot suitably be made by men. The problem is a difficult one, and already extraordinary blunders have been made. At one time it actually appeared to be to the (pecuniary) advantage of a girl, married to a soldier after August 13th, to say—contrary to the fact—that she had lived with him before legal marriage. We know of cases in which women were pressed to make this statement, not because it was desired to take away their character, but because they had married under the impression that they would then receive the allowance ; found that they would not, because their marriage was later than August 13th ; and then heard that women who had been living with soldiers before that, and were dependent on them, received allowances. In the cases we know, the women indignantly refused to buy maintenance at such a price, but the extraordinary confusion into which the question has been plunged, is illustrated by the mere possibility of the suggestion. We shall all agree that it is an exceedingly complicated problem, as are perhaps all problems connected with the economic position of women. But the more difficult it is, the more important that women should be asked to help in its solution, and we trust that that help will be asked for with due appreciation of the fact that both in laying down and in applying principles it is essential to a right solution.

National Service.*

Problems of War and Peace are discussed in THE COMMON CAUSE in a series of articles by well-known writers. Contributors are left free to express their own opinions, as we believe it to be in the public interest that such questions should be freely discussed. The articles are all signed and must not be assumed to represent the official views of the N.U.W.S.S.

In this article I propose to state very briefly what the National Service League is ; its origin and reason ; its objects, and how it seeks to attain them. It is a non-party association of men and women of all shades of political and religious opinion, whose watchword is " patriotism." Its endeavour is to create by legitimate means a great body of public opinion in favour of a law of universal, obligatory military training, by which every young man, without class distinction, should be obliged to undergo such training at such times and in such a manner as may enable him efficiently to defend his country in time of need. The reason for this law is the inadequacy in number of our military forces in view of our increased responsibilities. The principles on which such a law is justified are :—

(1) That it is the national duty of every man to defend his country in danger, this duty being inherent in the Constitution.

(2) That to be of use in time of war he must be adequately trained in peace, unless incapacitated in his early manhood.

In order to give effect to the widely expressed desire for this a League called " The National Service League " was formed ; the present Duke of Wellington was its first President, Mr. G. F. Shee, a Cambridge graduate, the first Secretary. He had a thorough knowledge of Germany and its army. Lord Roberts succeeded Lord Wolseley as Commander-in-Chief in 1900. As such he could not join the League nor support its proposals for reform, which were—put very shortly—that (1) subject to certain exemptions to be defined by law, every able-bodied young man should be liable to be trained between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one for service in the Territorial Force for Home Defence if required. (2) That when thus trained he should be liable to be called out for such service at a time of grave national emergency, as defined and declared by Parliament, up to the age of thirty. The training referred to above to be carried out annually, and not only on the breaking out of hostilities, and to be *continuous* for from four to six months, not sporadic or week-end only, during his first year of enrolment in the Territorial Force, and for a fortnight in camp in three subsequent years with rifle drill and practices.

In 1904 the office of Commander-in-Chief was abolished in furtherance of certain army reforms. Lord Roberts, being thus free, accepted the invitation of the Duke of Wellington, then President of the National Service League, and of its executive committee, to become its President. His long experience of forty years in India, his brilliant service in the field, and especially his thorough knowledge of the British soldier of the day, gained during his eminent, skilful, patient and sagacious conduct of the operations of the Boer War, aided by his right-hand man, Lord Kitchener of Khartoum fame, Sir John French, and other distinguished generals well-known to the public, made him pre-eminently the most fitted of leaders to carry on so great a national reform. With untiring yet quiet energy, and with a statesmanlike grasp of the situation, he expounded to various audiences throughout the kingdom, with a moderation, with a clearness and patience, and with a simple eloquence rarely exceeded by the most practised speakers, the need for the great reform he advocated, its justice, and its advantages. From early in 1905 until the end of 1913 he preached what was indeed a gospel of peace—the peace of the Anglo-Saxons as Major Stewart Murray, one of our ablest writers on the subject, calls it. Earl Roberts showed in his speeches in the House of Lords, and in his public addresses, the danger we were in from the overwhelming strength of the German army and from the growing power of its Navy, should war be suddenly sprung upon us, for our Reserves were quite inadequate to the requirements of a European War, should we be forced to take part in it.

Had Lord Roberts's advocacy of the proposals of the National Service League been carried into effect in, say, 1906, there would have been over a million young men partly trained by 1913. This great accession of potential strength would probably have prevented an aggressive war by Germany, and thousands of lives might have been saved. Yet, when war was begun by Germany, Lord Roberts did not remind the country of all his warnings, but set to work to do the best he could to remedy our deficiency in men. He stopped any further propaganda of the reforms urged by the National Service League, and desired all its branches to assist the Government in every way in recruiting. His splendid activity was undiminished, but his remaining strength was expended in noble efforts to raise fresh troops for the emergency. In one of his last letters to the writer he said that he was quite satisfied with the way in which the men of the country were now coming forward to join the ranks. I think there is little doubt that the noble efforts of our late splendid chief are now bearing fruit, and will not be forgotten. It is hoped, however, that the public will bear in mind the sacrifices that have been made, the enormous efforts, the crushing expenditure involved, the greater part of which might have been unnecessary had the proposals for Universal Training and Service made by the " National Service League " been listened to in time.

A certain number of people have opposed the wishes of " The National Service League " to have " a Nation in arms " trained in peace for service in war. These have advanced certain arguments against this. Lord Roberts answered most of these in his illuminating addresses to the people of England. The military advantages of having a large body of men already fairly trained, whose names and whereabouts are known, so that they can be called out and embodied rapidly for Home Defence on emergency, is patent to everyone. It has been proved by the comparative ease with which the Territorial Force has been embodied and mobilised (that is, brought up to war strength, equipped, and moved to its required stations) on the present war being forced on us. But how small is that force for the demands that are being made on it ! The discipline already acquired by those enrolled in time of peace is a valuable asset to the nation. But how few of the whole of the young men have benefited by it. The physical and moral advantages of the training gradually acquired by those trained are denied by none. But they form but a fraction of the manhood of the nation. The obligation on all to train would enable the fittest to be chosen for immediate necessities, while others were being brought up to concert pitch. Above all, the absolute unfairness of allowing the heavy burden of National Defence to be borne by a few gallant souls in normal times, and the absolutely democratic nature of the proposals of the National Service League will, I am sure, commend them to the readers and supporters of THE COMMON CAUSE.

The confidence placed in our splendid Navy to prevent invasion still deters the country from insisting on a law for Universal Training being brought in, and the spirit of the large numbers that have come forward to share the glory of their fellow countrymen now abroad is very satisfactory. But to postpone the obligation to train for Home Defence until a great national emergency arises, is to deprive many young men of such valuable training which they would gladly undergo, but

* " A Nation in Arms," John Murray, London, 1907.

for their declared determination not to do so till *all* (unless otherwise employed by the nation) are alike bound.

Conscription.

As the word "Conscription" has come to be used for Universal Training, it is well to point out the difference. During the French Revolution in 1793, a decree for a *Levée en Masse* was passed by Carnet to provide troops to resist foreign armies invading France. Though the Vendèeans resisted this, numerous volunteers poured in. These added to the old soldiers succeeded till the emergency was over. The law soon relaxed. In 1796 Napoleon's victories in Italy enabled a less stringent law to be passed. In 1798 General Jourdan's law of "Conscription" was introduced. This meant taking by lot a limited number, as required from time to time, for the regular army. But it was not universal, many exemptions were permitted, and even Napoleon allowed substitutes. Under the Bourbons aristocrats escaped it, and practically only the poorer classes were "conscripted," large sums being paid for substitutes. It was not till after the Franco-German War that Universal Personal Service became the law as it now is in France. In Prussia, in 1813, the law for Universal Personal Service was passed. It had really been secretly carried out before, when after Napoleon's defeat of Prussia he had limited the number they were to keep under arms to 42,000. The young men were passed through the army for three years, and thus the whole of the young men of the nation were trained to arms. After the War of 1866 and the unification of Germany, all the other German States followed the rule. All great European Powers except Great Britain have now adopted this system. Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, Holland have a militia system. I will, by permission, deal with this in another article.

Edwd. Gunter, Lt.-Colonel.

[*Colonel Gunter's second article will appear next week, and will be followed by one putting the point of view of those opposed to universal service.*]

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

U.S.A.

The U.S. Supreme Court is now considering the constitutionality of the Minimum Wage Law. Nine States now have minimum wage laws—Oregon, California, Washington, Colorado, Utah, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, and Nebraska. Five of these are equal Suffrage States, out of a total of eleven, *i.e., Five out of eleven Suffrage States, and four out of thirty-three Anti-suffrage States, have a Minimum Wage Law.*

American Congress and Women's Suffrage.

A Reuter telegram from Washington states that the House of Representatives has passed a special rule that it would debate the proposal to amend the Constitution so as to give the Suffrage to women.—*The Manchester Guardian.*

SWITZERLAND.

Geneva has long been known as the seat of the Red Cross. "Four hundred men and women," writes a correspondent from Montreux, "are working together [in Geneva] sorting and answering the 20,000 letters which pour in every day, in four or more languages, from all parts of Europe." Their object is to seek out missing and wounded soldiers from all countries, and to bring them into touch with their relatives; and they have negotiated successfully for the interchange of certain prisoners, *i.e.*, medical men and the hopelessly wounded. The same work, on slightly different lines, and on a smaller scale, is being carried on by the energetic women of Berne and Lausanne. Their special work is to seek for missing civilians in belligerent countries, in concentration camps, and hospitals, or wherever the unfortunate refugees may have found shelter in their flight before the enemy. "Both these bureaux," writes our correspondent, "are doing excellent work and giving comfort and fresh hope to innumerable hearts, sick with waiting for news."

It was the women of Lausanne also who promptly took the initiative in forming a Committee for the reception of Belgian refugees, and appealed successfully to all the women's associations in the different Cantons to join them. Large sums of money were collected for their benefit, in spite of the poverty of the country, which is now obliged to maintain 200,000 men on its frontiers, and is suffering sorely from the stagnation of its industries, the loss of its winter visitors, and consequent unemployment. In Geneva, the women have opened workrooms and pay the workers 25 centimes an hour and food. These "Ouvroirs," we are told, "are a very great success," and are being copied in other towns.

N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

Serbian Unit.

On January 7th, to our joy, came a cable message, despatched from Kraguievatz the previous day, to say our Unit had arrived and had immediately received a hospital containing 250 wounded. This is what it means to be accepted by a Government, as we are by that of Serbia! 250 patients will keep our six doctors, eleven nurses, six dressers, and two orderlies hard at work, and it may be that we shall soon have to consider the sending of reinforcements of women and equipment to our Eastern front.

French Unit.

From the Abbaye come enthralling details of the wonderful building and of our four wards: Blanche of Castile, Millicent Fawcett, St. Margaret of Scotland, Jeanne d'Arc, with twenty-five beds each to the first two, and eighteen each to the last two.

Various inspections by the military authorities have taken place, and certain wards have been absolutely approved and passed by them, whilst, with a few additions and improvements which are now being made, we hope that very shortly the whole Hospital will be at work.

Three motor-ambulances and a touring car are now at the Abbaye de Royaumont, and we hear that from the County of Cornwall is coming the munificent sum of £400 (which may be increased to £500) for another ambulance, to be used at Royaumont or elsewhere.

Calais.

Dr. Alice Hutchison writes what a pride the British contingent feels in the Ambulance car which has just arrived there from Colonel Denny, the generous President of our Glasgow Suffrage Society. The ten nurses are kept hard at work, mainly on cases of typhoid. "In his great strait," says Sir W. Osler (*British Medical Journal*, November 28th), "David chose three days of pestilence as the equivalent of three months military disaster." Our contingent is doing all it can to help to stay this plague.

Support Still Needed.

The Executive Committee urgently appeal for further donations to carry on the work of assisting to nurse the wounded of our Allies. Donations of £50 name a Bed for a year; of £25 for six months.

Motor Ambulances are required immediately for the French and Belgian Hospitals.

Subscriptions gratefully received and acknowledged by the Hon. Secretary, Dr. Elsie Inglis, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, or the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Laurie, Red House, Greenock, to whom cheques should be made payable, crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland."

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Forward, as per list to January 2nd, 1915 ...	7,367	6	4
Miss C. M. Ady	1	1	0
Miss T. Fothergill, December contribution	0	4	0
Miss Cecilia Allison (for the Abbaye de Royaumont) ...	5	0	0
Mrs. Helen M. Campbell ...	0	7	6
Kelso W.S.S., per Hon. Treas., Mrs Mein	1	0	0
Shoreham and Oxford Branch of the Kentish Federation towards Kentish Federation Donations, per Hon. Treasurer:—			
Miss Dorothy Scott	5	0	0
Mrs. Allison G. Thompson...	5	0	0
Miss Hilda M. Martin ...	1	0	0
Miss M. E. Knight	0	10	0
Miss N. H. Stein	0	10	0
Miss McGavin, per Mrs. Jeffard (Chairman, Tiverton W.S.S.), for French Hospital	1	0	0
"Two Tiny Persian Kits" ...	4	4	0
"G. G.," Lancaster	0	5	0
Miss Stewart	50	0	0
Mrs. Margaret Drummond ...	5	5	0
Mrs. Tod, to name "Glenesk" Bed in Jeanne D'Arc Ambulance, Calais, for 6 months...	25	0	0
Mrs. H. A. Thew	1	1	0
Miss Sibyl Johnstone Douglas, towards the "Sibyl" Bed ...	25	0	0
Mrs. Lusk	5	0	0
Mrs. Shaw McLaren	5	0	0
"Part of a Thankoffering," Mrs. M. E. Jellicoe	0	3	0
Miss Netta Baxter	1	0	0
Miss C. W. Hamilton	1	0	0
Per Miss Aspinwall, Hon. Treas., Dunbar W.S.S.— A New York Friend £10 5s. 4d., Mrs. Otis Willcox, New York, £10 4s. 11d., Miss Pearl Stone 8s., Miss Aspinwall 1s. 9d....	21	0	0
Per Miss Dorothy Allan, Glasgow— Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Allan £50, Mr. Henry Allan £10, Mr. Charles E. Allan £5, Miss Janie Allan £4, Miss Ellen Dunlop £6, Mrs. Fred Stephen £5	80	0	0
Miss McKirdy, per Mrs. Laurie, Greenock	1	0	0
"Jumble Box," per Miss McKirdy...	1	0	0
	£7,613	16	10

The Scottish Women's Hospital is in need of: Bed screens, bed tables, bed rests and cradles, large bath towels, bath mats.

Any of these will be most gratefully acknowledged by the Secretary, Scottish Women's Hospital, *2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh*, to whom all parcels should be addressed, and *not* to the National Union Office.

PUBLIC HEALTH WORK FOR WOMEN.

A suggestion is made in the current issue of *The British Medical Journal*, that there is a good opening for educated women, at the present time, in public health work, and this opinion is shared by Miss Lankester, Secretary of the National Health Society, who states that the demand for trained women in this profession is greater than the supply. Among the appointments gained by students of the National Health Society have been inspectorships of factories and workshops, sanitary inspectorships, inspectorships under the Infant Life Protection and Shop Hours Acts, posts as relieving officers, and lecturerships for County Councils. The salaries, after obtaining the necessary qualifications, range from about £80 to £130, and may rise in time to as much as £300 or £400, for women who show special aptitude.

WAR AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

While the rate of unemployment in insured trades, such as building, engineering, ship-building, &c., is below the level at the corresponding date last year, the Board of Trade announces that in uninsured trades the numbers on the registers of the Labour Exchanges at January 1st showed an increase on the figure for the previous week, being 36,586 as compared with 33,923. For men alone the corresponding figures were 15,702 and 13,997, and for women 20,884 and 19,926.

NURSES' HEROISM UNDER FIRE.

At a meeting of the Hartlepools Hospital governors, appreciation was expressed of the coolness and heroism of the matron and nursing staff during the recent bombardment. Although shells were bursting all round the building the nurses stayed calmly at their posts tending their patients and removing to less dangerous parts those who were in the more exposed sections of the buildings. Fortunately, the hospital was not struck, though great havoc was wrought among the property all around it. The matron stated that if ever women deserved the V.C. it was members of her staff on that occasion.

A NATIVITY PLAY.

A Nativity play—"The Shepherds," by Father Cuthbert, O.S.F.C.—was given last week at Westminster Cathedral Hall, in aid of the Franciscan Hop-fields Mission. Produced by Miss Edith Craig, the play is extremely simple, yet wonderfully impressive in its simplicity, while the very effective music and the scenery, simple, yet nevertheless striking, add considerably to the interest and charm.

REPERTOIRE SEASON AT THE CORONET.

"Merry Wives of Windsor," at the Coronet, this week, is altogether delightful, and it is a pity London does not see more of such productions. So often the spirit of Shakespeare's comedy is sacrificed to scenic effect or the egotism of the actor-manager, but in Mr. Herbert's production "the play's the thing," and every member of the company acts with humour and zest. Next week "The School for Scandal" will be given every evening except Saturday, when "The Merchant of Venice" will be played. There will also be matinées of "The Merchant of Venice" on Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.

A GENEROUS RESPONSE.

Miss Edwards writes to say that the response to her appeal for bandages for the R.A.M.C. billeted in Fleet has been so good that she has now enough to supply H Company with bandages, and also another company.

A MEETING FOR INTERCESSION.

The Fellowship of Prayer for the Enfranchisement of Women has arranged a meeting for intercession in connection with the N.U.W.S.S. Council Meeting, on February 4th and 5th. The meeting will be at 8.30 p.m. on February 3rd, at 92, St. George's Square, Pimlico, by the kind permission of the Collegium, whose house it is. All who are interested are asked to come, whether members or not of the Fellowship, and those who cannot come are asked to be with the meeting in spirit.

Where to Find Good Linen.

In these abnormal times, some goods are hardly obtainable, while there is a plethora of others. Of the former, linens are a prominent case. Most of the flax spun and manufactured in Ireland comes from Russia, Belgium, and France. Ireland, so admirably suited by soil and climate to produce the finest flax, now produces very little. Wilson's, of 68, Bond Street, produce their table linen on hand looms in Ireland, where also they get their hand-woven sheetings, the best in the world. At their Sale, now going on, you can still buy their splendid Heirloom linens at old prices and less; and, as the cost has gone up twenty per cent. (4s. in the £), it is an occasion to be pursued. They are the only damask manufacturers who have engaged such famous artists as Cav Walter Crane, Lewis F. Day, and R. Anning Bell to design for them. The "Daisy Mead" is a design charming in its simplicity, by Cavalier Walter Crane. A Sales List will be sent on receipt of post-card.

Annual Winter Sale
OF
CARPETS, RUGS and LINOLEUMS

A few Examples of the many Bargains now being offered:

Wilton Carpet Squares,
Reproductions of costly Persian.

	Sale Price
9′ 0″ by 9′ 0″	£2 19 6
10′ 6″ by 9′ 0″	£3 9 6
12′ 0″ by 11′ 3″	£4 18 6
13′ 6″ by 11′ 3″	£5 12 6

There is every probability of a further advance in the cost of Carpets owing to the shortage of raw material, etc. We now hold huge Stocks of all grades, bought at old prices, and now selling in many cases at and below Cost Prices.

Seamless Axminster Squares

	Sale Price
9′ 0″ by 9′ 0″	£2 19 6
10′ 6″ by 9′ 0″	£3 9 6
12′ 9″ by 9′ 0″	£4 4 0
13′ 6″ by 12′ 0″	£6 6 0

Best Quality
Art Carpets,
Discontinued Designs.
10′ 6″ by 9′ 0″
12′ 0″ by 9′ 0″
Sale Price
39/6

Special Lines in
RUGS
No. 1. Axminster, 6′ by 3′ 8/3
Model Design, Mixed Colouring.
No. 2. Indian, about 6′ by 3′ 7/11
Red, Blue, and Grey Grounds.
No. 3. Reversible Woollen, 5′ 8″ by 2′ 10″ 12/-
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Seamless Aubusson Pile Carpets.
11′ 6″ by 8′ 2″
Sale Price
£3 18 6

3 ONLY
Fine Indian Carpets,
Self Colourings.
12′ by 9′
Sale Price
£4 15 0

Bargains in TURKEY CARPETS and RUGS, AXMINSTER CARPETS by the yard, Remnant CARPETS, RUGS and LINOLEUMS.

Extra Heavy Deep Pile Axminster Squares.

	Sale Price
12′ 0″ by 6′ 9″	£4 15 0
11′ 3″ by 9′ 0″	£6 6 0

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GENTLEMEN'S CLOTHING, HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS. WINDOW HANGINGS, CARPETS, RUGS, CHINTZES, :: AND CRETONNES. ::

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Medals, 1862.

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SATS.: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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146, STRAND, W.C.

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LONDON.

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Lorgnettes.

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries:
MISS K. D. COURTNEY.
MISS C. E. MARSHALL (Parliamentary).
MISS EMILY M. LEAF (Press).
MISS EVELYN ATKINSON (Literature).

Hon. Treasurer:
MRS. AUERBACH.

Secretary:
MISS CROOKENDEN.

Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone Number—1960 Victoria.

The position and future activities of the National Union, to be decided upon at the annual Council Meeting on February 4th and 5th, will be announced at the public meeting to be held at the Kingsway Hall on Friday, February 5th, at 8 o'clock. The attitude of women demanding an equal share with men in the councils of the nation cannot but be of public interest at this crucial time, and the demand for tickets is expected to be very great, so readers of THE COMMON CAUSE are urged to apply early. All communications regarding the meeting should be addressed to the Secretary, Suffrage Active Service League Headquarters, 50, Parliament-street, S.W.

Cookery Demonstrations.

The demonstrations in the most economic forms of cookery begun by the N.U.W.S.S. in the autumn, are being continued under the auspices of the National Food Reform Association, 178, St. Stephen's House, Westminster, from whom all information can be obtained.

A further development is announced at Hampstead, where a recent address given by the "Pudding Lady" was so much appreciated that the Council of Social Welfare are following it up by a course of ten talks and demonstrations, in which Miss Petty will teach methods of producing nourishing and varied dinners at 1½d. and 2d. per head, using only the materials and utensils which are within the reach of women of the wage-earning class. These classes will be open to health visitors and voluntary workers, as well as to women who are being trained to act as sick-room helps. The latter will be paid for their time while attending by the Queen's "Work for Women" Fund.

Contributions to the General Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1914	322	11	9
Received from January 4th to January 11th—			
SUBSCRIPTIONS.			
Miss P. G. Fawcett (4th instalment)	5	0	0
Mrs. A. M. Overton		10	0
Miss B. E. Thomson		5	0
Miss J. M. Beath		10	6
Dr. Jane Walker	2	2	0
Mrs. Stuart Hogg		10	0
Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs Blathwayt	2	2	0
Miss Janet Brooke		2	6
Miss Grace Mitchell		5	0
Mrs. Charles T. Mitchell ...	1	0	0
Mrs. C. Flügel	2	2	0
Miss E. D. Vaughan Williams		1	0
Mrs. Bertram		2	0
Miss Lys Forster		1	0
Miss Lucy Stirling		1	0
Miss Evangeline Stirling ...		1	0
Miss Gawith		1	0
Mrs. Napier Sturt	10	0	0
Mr. T. Yates Kennedy	1	0	0
Miss E. M. Gunter	1	1	0
Mrs. Satterthwaite		1	0
Mrs. Brownlow		5	0
Miss M. B. Thornton	10	0	0
Mrs. D. Macdonald	1	0	0
Miss Julia M. Marett		5	0
Miss Kitty F. Jones		5	0
DONATIONS.			
A Sister	31	0	0
Miss Lucy Stirling		1	0
AFFILIATION FEES.			
Birmingham W.S.S.	11	12	3
Hitchin, Stevenage and District W.S.S.	2	10	0
Harlow and Sawbridgeworth W.S.S.		7	3
Bradford W.S.S.	4	2	6
Southport W.S.S.	2	10	0
Shanklin W.S.S.		11	6
Honiton W.S.S.		5	0
Burnham and District W.S.S.	1	5	0
Barnes W.S.S.		17	6
	£416	6	9

Active Service Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	3,392	17	11
Horsham W.S.S.		1	0
Mr. T. Tindle Anderson, Jur. (4th monthly donation) ...		2	6
Dr. and Mrs. Hugh Ayres ...	4	0	0
Mrs. Morgan (monthly donation)	1	0	0
Mrs. Stuart Hogg		10	0
Mrs. Harley	20	0	0
Miss E. S. Johnston	5	0	0
Per Miss Janet Robertson ...		10	0
Miss C. Winifred Hamilton ...	1	0	0
Miss Partington (4th monthly donation)		5	0
Mrs. M. Gertrude Cross ...	1	2	0
Misses M. and B. Paine ...	2	0	0
Miss I. M. Evans (5th monthly donation)		2	6
Miss Kitty F. Jones (Motor Ambulance)		5	0
At 50 Parliament Street— Miss P. G. Fawcett (10th donation)	2	0	0
Mrs. L. G. Rose Innes (2nd donation, Scottish Women's Hospital)	2	2	0
Mrs. A. M. Overton (Women Patrols)		11	0
Miss A. Atky (Women Patrols)		10	0
Miss Julia M. Marett (Women Patrols)		5	0
Huddersfield W.S.S. (Women Patrols)	1	0	0
Professional Women's Patriotic Service Fund—			
Miss E. S. Newman	1	0	0
Anonymous (5th donation) ...		15	0
Miss Emma Miller	1	0	0
Mrs. Arthur King		10	6
Miss K. D. Courtney	5	0	0
Miss Violet Edgell	1	0	0
The Hon. Mrs. Franklin ...	1	1	0
Miss Glyde	1	0	0
Lady Pollock	5	0	0
	£3,451	10	5

The N.U. Colours.

MESSRS. BURBERRY, Haymarket, have now on show several beautiful scarves, specially woven in the N.U. colours, at 35s. each. Members would be well advised to inspect these without delay.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

What Some of Our Societies are Doing.

ROCHESTER.—This Society has been using all its energy in looking after the wives and mothers of our soldiers and sailors. Despite the fact that the military have taken most of the public buildings for the troops, we have been successful in securing a hall to be used as a club and recreation room. This has been much appreciated, and we know it has done something to relieve the terrible stress and monotony of the lives of those who, though unrecognised, pay so heavily for the cost of war. During the first week of the year we gave an afternoon to the children, when a hearty tea was provided, and they experienced the joys of a Christmas tree. The presents were distributed by Father Christmas (our enthusiastic President, Miss V. Conway Gorden), followed by a social evening for the mothers. It is gratifying to know that, despite the various forms of public generosity, there were children present who would have missed the joys of Christmas had the Rochester Branch of the Union not considered it their duty to undertake some work during this crisis.

Oxon, Berks, and Bucks Federation.

At a meeting of the Federation Committee, held on December 16th, Mrs. Arthur Schuster was appointed Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year, and Mrs. Haverfield Vice-Chairman.

On December 7th, the ASCOT Society held a meeting, at which Mrs. Robie Uniacke presided, and Mrs. Rackham spoke upon "Women's Work in War Time." This was followed on December 9th by a most successful sale of work, in aid of the Scottish Women's War Hospital, which realised £41.

Forthcoming Meetings.

Correspondents are urged to write distinctly when sending particulars of meetings.

JANUARY 15.

Bristol—40, Park Street—Ambulance Demonstration 8.0

Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—Miss Mary Tweedie, on "Forcible Germanisation of Schleswig-Holstein in the last Forty Years" 4.30

JANUARY 17.

Birmingham—Bonner Memorial, Handsworth—Speaker, Mrs. Ring 3.0

Hyde Park—Near Reformers' Tree—Meeting 3.0

JANUARY 18.

Bristol—40, Park Street—Working Party 3.0

Manchester—Hulme Suffrage Club, York Street Temperance Hall 8.0

Watford—42, Queen's Road—Speaker, Miss Dora Mason, M.A.—Chair, Mrs. Robinson 8.15

JANUARY 19.

Bristol—Berkeley Square—French Class for Soldiers.

East Grinstead—Annual Meeting of East Grinstead W.S.S.—Chair, the Lady Robert Cecil 3.30

JANUARY 20.

Manchester—60, Palatine Road, Didsbury—Drawing-room Meeting—Speaker, Miss I. O. Ford—Chair, Mrs. E. Simon 3.0

Memorial Hall, Albert Square—Annual Meeting—Speaker, Miss I. O. Ford 7.30

Reigate—Public Hall—Meeting for Members and "Friends" of Redhill, Reigate, and District W.S.S. — Hostess, Miss Crosfield—Speakers, Mrs. Rackham, P.L.G., on "Women's Work in War Time," and Mrs. Auerbach on "The Work of our Society in Redhill and Reigate" 4.30

JANUARY 21.

Bristol—Berkeley Square—French Class for Soldiers.

Glasgow—202, Hope Street—Colonel Napier, M.D., on "Sickness and Mortality (Military)" 4.0

WHY KEEP USELESS JEWELLERY?

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5, Hampstead Rd. (nr. Maple's), W. & 127, Fenchurch St, E.C.
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Ten words, 9d. per insertion; every additional ten words, 6d. per insertion. All advertisements should be addressed to The Manager, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Limited, 2, Robert-st., Adelphi, W.C.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

THE WOMEN'S TAX RESISTANCE LEAGUE, having temporarily suspended activities, the Committee makes the following announcement: The list of subscribers and balance-sheet for the year 1914 may be inspected at Hampden House, Kingsway, the office of the Auditor of the League, Mrs. Ayres Purdie, who will be pleased to give professional advice to any members requiring assistance.

POSITIONS VACANT.

ST. MARYLEBONE HEALTH SOCIETY.—Superintendent for Schools for Mothers; C.M.B. certificate, previous experience in Infant Welfare work; salary £100.—Apply Mrs. Wilson, 91, Harley-street.

WANTED, capable girl for cooking, some washing (another does housework); on ladies' market garden, country; salary.—Miss Unwin, Churt, Farnham.

WANTED, educated woman as nurse to boy (18 months) and to help with two older children (6½); one used to boys, and with some experience of young babies preferred. Good salary according to qualifications.—55, Bryansburn-rd., Bangor, Co. Down.

WANTED at once, Organising Secretary, with small means of her own. Expenses all paid—salary later on. Work, organising educational campaign upon International Relationship, with view to obtaining permanent peace.—Apply, Miss E. Fell, 47, Victoria-st., S.W.

POSITION WANTED.

SECRETARYSHIP or Confidential Post wanted by Englishwoman; organising and literary ability, efficient shorthand-typist; perfect French and German; several years' literary and commercial experience, Or as Secretary-Housekeeper; highest references.—Apply "Capable," COMMON CAUSE Office.

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SWEDISH DRILL and Morris Dance Class will be held at 21, Maiden-lane, Strand, every Tuesday at 6.30 p.m.; term commences Jan. 19 to Mar. 23, fee 5s.—Write Miss P. Leahy, 22, Ulleswater-rd., Southgate.

TYPEWRITING, TRANSLATIONS. Best work. Special terms to Suffragists.—Mrs. Marks, The Moorgate Typewriting Co., 63, Finsbury Pavement, E.C. Telephone, 5638 London Wall.

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BUSH HILL PARK STEAM LAUNDRY, 19-20, Second avenue, Enfield. Proprietor, Miss M. B. Lattimer. Best family work, under personal supervision of trained experts. Open-air drying. Hand-done shirts and collars. Specialities: flannels, silks, fine linen, laces, &c. Prompt attention to parcels sent by post.

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LACE cleaned, mended, transferred. Many testimonials.—Beatrice, "C.C." Office. (No postcards.)

PERFECT FITTING Corsets made to order from 12s. 6d. Also accurately copied to customers own patterns.—Emilie, 17, Burlington-arcade, Piccadilly.

TAILOR-MADE COSTUMES.—Latest West-End and Paris styles, from 3½ guineas. Patterns sent on application.—H. NELISSEN, Ladies' Tailor, 14, Great Titchfield-st., Oxford-st., W. (near Waring's).

WHILE THE WAR LASTS the workers of La Belle Alliance, will design and make picturesque rest gowns, peasant blouses, and children's dresses, caps and coats. The show room is at 2, Boyle-st., Savile-row, W. Sketches and prices will gladly be sent by the Secretary.

FOR SALE AND WANTED.

ARTHUR'S STORES.
114-120, WESTBOURNE GROVE, W.
GENERAL PROVISIONS. HIGH-CLASS CONFECTIONERY.
All Cakes and Pastries of finest ingredients by own Bakers

ARTIFICIAL TEETH (old) bought; we pay absolutely highest genuine prices—up to 5s. 6d. per tooth pinned on vulcanite; 10s. on silver; 12s. 6d. on gold; 35s. on platinum. Immediate cash. If offer not accepted, we return parcel post free. Satisfaction guaranteed.—S. Cann & Co., 69a, Market-st., Manchester. Bankers, Parrs. Mention "C.C."

HAIR FALLING OFF.—Lady who lost nearly all hers, and has now strong, heavy growth, sends particulars to anyone enclosing stamped addressed envelope.—Miss C. C. Field, Glendower, Shanklin.

EXTRAORDINARY SALE BARGAINS! Ladies fine Mull Handkerchiefs; printed border; with any initial embroidered, 2s. 6d. per dozen. Postage 3d. Summer Irish Linen Sale Catalogue free.—Send postcard, Hutton's, 159, Larne, Ireland.

SECOND-HAND CLOTHING wanted to buy for cash; costumes, skirts, boots, underclothes, curtains, lounge suits, trousers, and children's clothing of every description; parcels sent will be valued, and cash sent by return.—Mrs. Russell, 100, Raby-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

TABLE POULTRY, NEW LAID EGGS.—Best quality; reasonable prices; carriage paid.—Misses DAVIES & JANES, Reed End Farm, Royston, Herts.

TO LET.

LADY, student, Suffragist and good reformer, seeks another of same interests as boarder. House quiet, modern, suburban. Bedroom, sitting-room, and board, 25s. inclusive.—M., care of Stationer, 6, Lupus-st., S.W.

LADY wishes to share expenses of her small Furnished Flat in Chelsea with English or Frenchwoman; expenses about 25s. weekly.—Box 3,802, COMMON CAUSE Office.

LADY wishes to Let Furnished Room in Flat.—20, Somerset-ter., Duke's-rd., W.C.

WHERE TO LIVE.

BROOKLYN PRIVATE HOTEL.—Earl's Court Square (Warwick Road corner), finest centre all parts; 12 minutes' Piccadilly; quiet, separate tables; strictly inclusive terms from 5s. day, 31s. 6d. weekly, B. and B. 4s.; private sitting-rooms, 21s.; electric light throughout; own private garage *free*. Tel: 344 Western.

HOSTEL FOR LADY WORKERS, students, and others; central and convenient for all parts; terms moderate.—Miss Sullivan, 58, Albany-st., Regent's-pk. (Portland-rd. Station, W.)

HOSTEL FOR STUDENTS, Professional Women, and other Ladies. Near British Museum, University College and Women's School of Medicine. Central, quiet.—Miss H. Veitch-Brown, 6, Lansdowne-pl., Brunswick-sq., W.C.

PRIVATE HOTEL FOR LADIES. Very quiet and refined. 13, St. George's-sq., Westminster. Bedroom, breakfast, bath, and attendance from 4s. 6d.—Write, or wire, Miss Davies.

RESIDENTIAL CLUB for Ladies. Cubicles from 18s. 6d., with board; rooms moderate.—Mrs. Campbell-Wilkinson, 49, Weymouth-st., Portland-pl., London, W.

THE NATIONAL UNION.
ACTIVE SERVICE FUND.

I enclose Cheque / Postal order for £ : s. d. for the Work organised by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies in relief of distress caused by the war.

Name _____
(Mrs., Miss, Esq., or other Title.)

Address _____

Cheques to be made payable to the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Auerbach, crossed London County and Westminster Bank, and sent to the N.U.W.S.S., Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, London, S.W.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

THE NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES & THE WAR.

PUBLIC MEETING,

KINGSWAY HALL

(KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C.),

Friday, February 5TH, at 8 p.m.

To announce

The Position and Future Activities of the N.U.W.S.S. as determined at the Annual General Council of the Union, Meeting on February 4th and 5th.

Chairman: Mrs. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

Speakers: Mdme. VÉRONE,

and others to be announced later.

ADMISSION FREE.

Reserved and Numbered Seats **2/6** and **1/-** Tickets to be obtained from the special office of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, 50, Parliament Street, Whitehall, London, S.W. 'Phone: Victoria 6896.

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